

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the present amendments and following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-24 remain pending in this application. Claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 10-12, 23 and 24 are amended by the present amendment. Support for the amendments to independent Claims 1, 10-12, 23 and 24 is found, by way of non-limiting example, in application FIG. 8 and the corresponding specification description. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action, the specification was objected to; Claims 5, 6, 8 and 23 were objected to; Claims 1, 10-12, and 23-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Publication 2002/0087892 to Imazu; Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Imazu; Claims 2-8 and 14-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Imazu in further view of U.S. Publication 2004/0068524 to Aboulhosn; Claims 9 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Imazu in view of Aboulhosn and further in view of U.S. Publication 2002/0184515 to Oho et al. (herein “Oho”); and Claim 22 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Imazu in view of Aboulhosn and further in view of U.S. Publication 2002/0095571 to Bradee and U.S. Publication 2002/0191964 to Satyavolu et al. (herein “Satyavolu”).

Regarding the objection to the specification as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claim subject matter, one of skill in the art would recognize in FIGs. 2 to 4, terminal management server 3A, content server 3B, and user terminals 4 to include readable mediums such as a ROM, a RAM, and a hard disk drive (HDD). Each of these devices is well known in the art as a computer readable storage medium. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the objection to the specification be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Responsive to the objections to Claims 5, 6, 8 and 23, clarifying amendments have been made therein. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the objection to these claims be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of Claims 1, 10-12, and 23-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Imazu.

Claim 1 recites:

transmitting registration information according to an external input, the registration information including a first user identification information for use in utilizing a service in a service utilizing apparatus, a first password corresponding to the first user identification information;

transmitting a first apparatus name of the service utilizing apparatus to a management apparatus;

receiving registration completion information transmitted from the management apparatus after completing registration with the first user identification information, the first password, and the first apparatus name; and

manages the service utilizing apparatus by the management apparatus.

Claims 10 and 23 recite similar subject matter in apparatus format and Claims 11, 12 and 24 recite similar subject matter in method format. It is respectfully submitted that these features are neither disclosed by nor rendered obvious by Imazu, Aboulhosn, Oho, Bradee, Satyavolu or any conceivable combination thereof.

In the Response to Arguments section the Office Action asserts:

Imazu discloses that a registration identifier is used to authenticate a user, then a login identifier is entered into a login screen in order to authenticate the user based on the login identifier and that each of these identifiers identifies the user and/or communication device (0014, lines 4-14). Therefore, since the login identifier can only be entered after the user is authenticated based on a registration identifier these identifiers are not the same.

The Office Action further asserts that Imazu discloses:

transmitting registration information according to an external input, the registration information including a first user identification information (i.e. login identifier) for use in utilizing a service in a service utilizing apparatus, a first password corresponding to the first user identification information, and a first apparatus name (i.e. registration identifier) of the service utilizing apparatus to a management apparatus, wherein the management apparatus manages the service utilizing apparatus (0014, lines 3-9, 11-13).

As can be seen in Imazu Fig. 4, User 10 must send four transmissions to Authenticator 100. These transmissions are Request registration 1002, Call URL 1010, Enter a password 1014, and Input and send your password 1024.

Imazu describes an “[a]uthentication method... that forwards to a communication device of a user a registration identifier that identifies the user and/or the communication device by including the identifier in an address of registration screen peculiar to the user and/or the communication device... and a first password is entered and replied to the registration screen, authenticates the user based on the registration identifier and the first password.”¹ In Imazu, “registration screen 221a comprises fields for registration identifier 222, registration password 223, send button 224 and effective period 225.”² Imazu adds “[f]ield 222 is an ID that identifies the user and/or the communication device registered in user management table 210.”³ Therefore, Imazu makes clear that a single field 222 contains a single identifier that serves to identify both the user and the communication device. In other words, Imazu does not describe registration information including a first user identification information for use in utilizing a service in a service utilizing apparatus and a first apparatus name of the service utilizing apparatus as recited in Claims 1, 10-12, 23 and 24. That is, Imazu does not describe a separate identifier for the user and a separate identifier for the communication device. Therefore, Imazu fails to describe the features of Claims 1, 10-12, 23 and 24 quoted above.

¹ Abstract. See paragraph [0014].

² FIG. 2a and paragraph [0060].

³ Paragraph [0060].

By way of contrast as exemplified in Claim 1, first a user ID and password is transmitted from a service utilizing apparatus and then an apparatus name is transmitted from the service utilizing apparatus to the management apparatus. Afterwards, registration completion information is received. There is no description or suggestion in Imazu that discloses or renders obvious making only two transmissions in order to receive registration completion information. That is, Imazu requires four transmissions in order to achieve Password verified/Authentication completed step 1026.

Neither Aboulhosn, Oho, Bradee, or Satyavolu corrects the deficiencies of Imazu pointed out above. Neither of these references describes registration information including a first user identification information for use in utilizing a service in a service utilizing apparatus, a first password corresponding to the first user identification information, and a first apparatus name of the service utilizing apparatus as recited in Claims 1, 10-12, 23 and 24.

It is respectfully submitted that dependent Claims 2-9 and 13-22 are patentable at least for the reasons argued above with regard to the claims from which they depend.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of Claims 1-24 be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that Claims 1-24 be found allowable.

Consequently, for the reasons discussed in detail above no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

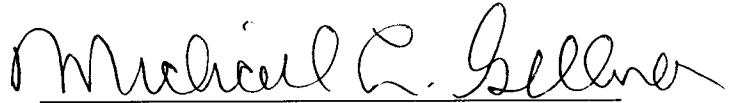
Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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